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Some Pertinent Questions.

Prior to his contemplated adjournment to Japan, the land of real estate investments, Mr. EDWARD H. HARRIMAN has given to the public a formal statement of his relation to the affairs of the Equitable insurance company. It contains this paragraph:

"There is nothing in the Union Pacific Preferred Stock Syndicate that can be criticized. An opportunity was availed of by Mr. HTDE to join myself and associates in the acquisition of Union Pacific preferred stock on a favorable basis. There was no profit or advantage to any one member of the syndicate over another, and neither the Equitable nor any of its allied companies or any one else was ever requested to in any way aid in

Since Mr. HARRIMAN is in the mood for explaining, will he have the goodness before his departure to answer these questions?

Does he assert, as he seems to, that Mr. Hype's subscription was purely personal, and had nothing to do whatever with the Equitable? We do not fail to observe that in this assertion Mr. HARRIMAN is supported with great emphasis and unmistakable technical strength by his colleague and associate, Mr. JACOB H. SCHIFF. Nevertheless, we reiterate our question.

Was not the stock issued in the name of young Mr. Hype for the reason that if it were in the name of the Equitable it could not be sold and made what the Stock Exchange calls a "good delivery" without the formality of a formal vote of the board of directors in authorization of said sale? Was it not solely on this account that it was made to stand in Mr. JAMES H. HYDE'S name? And was not this fact as well known to Mr. HARRI-MAN and to Mr. SCHIFF as it was to Mr. HYDE himself, and likewise to Mr. JAMES

W. ALEXANDER? What was the reason which actuated Mr. SCHIFF in refusing, when recently requested by the new authority in the Equitable to do so, to transfer the stock so standing in the name of Mr. JAMES H. HYDE to the Equitable, its actual owner? Was it simply because the members of the syndicate had made an agreement to hold the stock for five years? Was it on that technicality alone that Mr. SCHIFF based his refusal. or was it for the wholly irrelevant reason that to transfer the stock to its actual owners, the Equitable, would be to give the lie, formal and unequivocal, to Mr. SCHIFF'S and Mr. HARRIMAN'S oft repeated statement that the Equitable was never involved in the pool in Union Pacific preferred?

Is it untrue that the money of the policyholders of the Equitable was ever used in a speculative agreement to tie up the stock of the Union Pacific road, in order to fortify Mr. EDWARD H. HARRI-MAN in his control of that property?

Finally, is not the statement that neither the Equitable nor any of its allied companies or any one else was ever requested to in any way aid in financing the syndicate"-is not this statement a deliberate and wilful falsehood?

May we absolve ourselves from the obligation of giving any greater credence to any other statement in Mr. HARRIMAN'S declaration than we find it possible to accord to the one to which we have just adverted?

The President and the Miners.

The agreement which terminated the anthracite coal strike of 1902 expires on April 1, 1906. At the annual meeting of the United Mine Workers last January plans were considered and a movement set on foot for a general strike should the terms to be demanded next April be refused by the mine owners. For several weeks JOHN MITCHELL has been busy organizing his forces, rounding up the many operatives who have strayed from their unions, and securing a "defense fund." The agreements under which bituminous mining is carried on also expire on the first of next April. The leaders of the bituminous miners are likewise engaged in considering the terms of new agreements.

The news despatches of Monday announced that arrangements were being made for a general strike by both branches of the industry within the next two or three months, in order to forestall a general lockout by the anthracite operators. The despatches of Tuesday contained a somewhat indefinite denial by JOHN MITCHELL of the reports of the preceding day. While an extensive strike next spring is possible, if not probable, it is inconceivable that either miners or operators would assume responsibility for the precipitation of a conflict during the life of the agree-

We are unable to accept the boastful declaration credited to T. L. LEWIS, the vice-president of the United Mine Workers, that the anthracite and the bituminous miners are to join hands in the greatest strike the world has ever known, to be called within two months. Such a step would be suicidal.

The United Mine Workers, if they could really unite, constitute a monopoly more dangerous to society than any combination of capital now in the field. If all were to quit and stay out for a year, no imagination can conceive what would happen. But such a course is almost

ventable by the adoption of the plan followed in the recent teamsters' strike in Chicago. Students of industrial conflicts are generally agreed in a conviction that strikes are exceedingly rare in which all or even a majority of the participants leave their work voluntarily or willingly. By full protection to all who desire to work the public may be protected and a basic principle of industrial freedom may be established. Of course, the tyranny of a unionism which drives a man from his work against his will is as indefensible as the reduction of his wages to a starvation point by an overgreedy employer. It is merely a question of being robbed by a highwayman or by a pickpocket.

Since the conclusion of the last anthracite strike there has been a wide change in public opinion regarding broken agreements and the exactions of labor unions. That experience did much to open the eyes of the public to its real position in industrial conflicts. The point has been emphasized by several later experiences. An appeal to the White House would encounter less patience and less approval than it did three years ago.

On Aug. 10 Mr. ROOSEVELT is to address a meeting of the mine workers at Wilkesbarre. He will doubtless urge conciliation and an amicable adjustment of differences. On the off chance that the reports of a contemplated strike for this fall are not without a foundation, it might not be amiss for him to indicate his personal and official opinion of broken agreements. In view of the fact that if a strike is ordered, whether this fall or next spring, thousands will be forced to participate in it against their will and wish, Mr. ROOSEVELT might remind his Wilkesbarre audience of what he said in his message of December, 1903: "Every man must be guaranteed his liberty and his right to do as he likes with his property or his labor, so long as he does not infringe the rights of others."

A serious disturbance in the coal regions is even more than probable. It may come this year or it may come next year. By his course in the earlier struggle and by consenting to address the miners Mr. ROOSEVELT stands committed to its processes in a way which the public will watch with interest.

Why Mr. Balfour Clings to Office.

It will be remembered that when

the Balfour Government was beaten

last week by a few votes on a division in which only about two-thirds of the members took part the House of Commons adjourned to give the Ministers time to consider what course they would pursue. They might resign, or they might dissolve Parliament, or, by summoning their supporters and showing that they still commanded a large majority, they might prove their right to cling to office. There are precedents for every one of these modes of procedure, and until Mr. BALFOUR rose on Monday to announce his intention nobody outside of the ministerial circle seems to have known what would be done. What he said was: J'y suis, j'y reste, and his power was demonstrated by an array of followers which, had there been an occasion for counting them, would have given him, it is computed, a majority of at least ninety. In spite, therefore, of repeated victories at by-elections the Opposition is helpless, so far as the present House of Commons is concerned. The Liberals may rage, and the Nationalists imagine a vain thing, but the Unionists will govern the British Empire for at least another twelvemonth. So far, indeed, as the law is concerned they can stay in office until the autumn of 1907. But Lord BEACONSFIELD in 1880 dissolved Parliament a year before the close of the statuory term, and it is taken for granted that his example will be followed.

What is the real reason for Mr. BAL-FOUR'S clinging to office? The lesson of the by-elections is as easily read by him as by any of his opponents. He must recognize, what Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has publicly acknowledged, that the installation of a Liberal Government is almost certain to be the outcome of the next general appeal to the constituencies. While admitting the likelihood of defeat, however, Mr. CHAM-BERLAIN has always insisted that the triumph of the Liberals would be a brief one, and that a second general election would give the Unionists, who by that time, he takes for granted, would be converted to a preferential tariff for the colonies, a firm lease of power. From this assumption the obvious deduction was that the sooner a dissolution of the present Parliament should come the better. For a time Mr. CHAMBERLAIN did not hesitate to draw that inference, but now he confesses frankly that he has changed his mind, and concurs with Mr. Balfour in favoring an indefinite postponement of an appeal to the judgment of the country.

There is at least one disinterested and avowable motive for Mr. BALFOUR'S refusal to surrender office at this time. The cordial understanding brought about between England and France by Lord LANSDOWNE on the one hand and by M. DELCASSÉ on the other has already lost one of its promoters and could scarcely afford to lose the other. If a result of the interview between WILLIAM H. and NICHOLAS II. should be a revival of the combination between Russia, Germany and France which existed for a brief period in 1895, and which extorted from Japan the retrocession of the Liaotung peninsula, England manifestly would be isolated, so far as Europe is concerned. It might then become for her a matter of vital moment to enter into closer relations with Japan than those which are defined by the present alliance. There is scarcely any doubt that Prime Minister BALFOUR and the present Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Lord LANSDOWNE, have both the wish and the ability to tighten the ties connecting the two island empires, but it is by no means certain that a Liberal Government would pursue a similar course. In 1895 Lord Rose-BERY declined, it is true, to take part with Russia, Germany and France in

addressing an ultimatum to Japan.

from saying that an attempt to coerce the Mikado would be opposed by the British fleet. It is only in Liberal newspapers, moreover, that we read objections to England's entering into any more intimate association with Japan than the

present treaty calls for, and only from the same quarter is heard any criticism on the Anglo-French entente. It, is quite conceivable that, as a patriot having his country's security at heart, Mr. BALFOUR may deem it his duty to retain office, if possible, until the understanding with France has been solidified, and until the existing alliance with Japan has been renewed or tightened.

There is another, and a melancholy, reason for the change in Mr. CHAMBER-LAIN'S attitude toward a dissolution of Parliament. He no longer wishes to precipitate a general election, because he fears that his own public life is drawing near a close. His first preferential tariff campaign is a failure, and he can hardly look forward to conducting another. Why should he desire to turn his son out of the Chancellorship of the Exchequer when he can no longer look forward with confidence to replacing him in that office after a Liberal Government shall have enjoyed a short tenure of power? It is possible, indeed, that Mr. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN will again be a Minister, but we doubt if his father

expects to witness that event. The Irish Nationalists have cause to regret Mr. Balfoun's refusal to dissolve Parliament, for the Premier will now have time to push the Redistribution of Seats bill, which of course is aimed at the Home Rulers. Mr. JOHN E. RED-MOND may be able, however, to offer so much obstruction to Parliamentary business that the Government will be glad to buy peace by renouncing the obnoxious measure.

A Practical University.

In a collection of reports from the colleges of Great Britain, recently published in an English magazine, one from Birmingham University, in the city that is noted for its progressiveness in "modernizing its nstitutions," notes that "the school of brewing is making very satisfactory progress and is now in a most flourishing condition."

This useful department of the university runs no risk of being dropped for lack of the necessary funds for its support. It enjoys the solid and generous backing of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Wholesale Brewers' Association, to which it is indebted for its buildings and equipment, in addition to the current expenses of maintenance. No part of the university income, either from endowment funds or from the Government grant, has been taxed for the establishment or for the support of this school.

Sixty-seven pupils have been graduated from its courses and new ones are coming in even from the distant colonies of the British Empire. The managers have recently visited similar institutions of the higher education on the Continent, in Ghent, Berlin, Vienna, Munich and Paris, and the Birmingham school will reap the benefit of their experience and observations in new and additional equipment and in a reorganization of the curriculum.

Thus the university ceases to be thing aloof from the affairs of everyday life. It draws very close to the plain and practical working world.

International Cricket.

The Marylebone Cricket Club of London, which began its tour in this country on Tuesday by defeating the Gentlemen of Philadelphia, is the oldest and most famous cricket organization in the world. With more than a century and a half of history behind it, its prestige is preeminent. Its rules, as originally made by the club and by it from time to time amended, govern the game wherever it is played.

The popularity of cricket, the national game of England, in this country is attested by the large number of clubs in various districts, governed by several central organizations. The game has been longest established and is most popular in Philadelphia. In New York the Metropolitan Cricket League is the most prominent organization. There are important cricket associations in Massachusetts, in Chicago and in California. In the colleges the game classes with the "minor sports," the Intercollegiate Cricket League comprising the clubs of the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard, Cornell and Haverford. In the intercollegiate association no admission charges to games are allowed cricket being a "gentleman's game," and each individual athlete paying his own

In 1889 the Gentlemen of Philadelphia visited England, Ireland and Scotland. Of twelve matches played, four were won, three lost, and five tied. The Americans scored 4,360 runs to 173 wickets lost, while the Britishers made 4,614 runs to 190 wickets. In 1891 a team captained by Lord HAWKE came here, defeating the Gentlemen of Philadelphia and teams in Baltimore and Chicago, and losing to the Gentlemen of Philadelphia in a three days game by eight wickets. A game with a New York team resulted in a draw. Two games played in Canada resulted in easy victories for the Englishmen. Lord HAWKE brought over another team in 1894, which won three out of five games played,

the other two being drawn. The popularity of cricket in America has grown steadily, and the test of games with British and colonial clubs has been frequently sought as a measure of home prowess. In 1893 an Australian team played twice in Philadelphia, losing the first game and winning the second. In Boston and Chicago the Antipodeans won, while in New York the game was

drawn. The interesting feature in the record of 1895 is the tour of the Oxford-Cambridge team. This team defeated the players of New York and Canada; defeated the Gentlemen of Philadelphia once, and lost to them once; and was defeated by the University of Pennsylvania. In the following year another Australian team, after winning beyond conception. It would be pre- but on the other hand he refrained all but one of their games in the East,

played a tie game with the California

In 1807 a team of Philadelphians player fifteen games in England, of which they won only two. Four games were drawn, and there were nine defeats. In the same year an English team won a game in New York and another in Philadelphia, and was defeated in one game by the Gentlemen of Philadelphia. The following year the Englishmen made almost a clean sweep of their games here, winning six, losing none and drawing two. In 1900 Haverford sent a team to play in England, which won three games, lost four and drew

In 1901 an English team lost two games and won two in America. Two years later an American team, from Philadelphia, played in England with marked success, winning seven out of fifteen games, losing six and drawing two. They were defeated by Marylebone and Cambridge; the game with Oxford was unfinished on account of rain, and one of the teams they defeated was Kent County, which later in the year visited this country and made a clean sweep in four games played. Last year Haverford played fifteen games in England, winning five and losing two, with eight drawn matches.

Of thirty-six games between Canada and the United States we have won more than twenty, and several have been drawn.

Not only is cricket too expensive a game to be in the broad sense "popular," but by the ordinary American it is voted "slow." Even at that, however, our record in international contests is by no means poor.

Consular and Trade Reports of July 20 quotes Senator JULES MELINE of France. a recognized authority in that country on agricultural and commercial matters, as saying that "the French colonies, especially Indo-China, are wide open markets for American agricultural implements and machinery, and that well organized efforts in those directions should result in largely increasing our exports of those manufactures

Probably some of our agricultural machinery has made its way into the French colonies and secured a favorable reception, leading to Senator MELINE's state-

In the eleven months ended May, 1905. our exports of such machinery to France were \$2,639,442. Russia is the only European country buying more of our agricultural machinery, namely, \$3,727,600 in 1905, eleven months. Germany bought only \$1,130,860, and Great Britain \$991,904. It is therefore doubtful if the French colonies got any of our agricultural machinery from either of those two countries. The heavy local demand in Russia used up all we sent to that country.

Senator MELINE's statement would seem to be worthy of consideration by American agricultural machinery manufacturers.

The publisher of a paper devoted to the peddling of social scandal, and now under investigation by the District Attorney, boasts of his reserve in holding back some of it from publication. "I have stuff locked up in my safe," he confesses, "that would turn New York upside down if it were Very likely. Nor is it improbprinted." able that the assertion of one of our correspondents to-day is true, that the scandalous information is largely furnished from inside "society." Personal grudges are the motive for very much of it. Few fami lies and few individuals would relish the publication of all the facts relating to their private life and history, no matter how innocent, especially if they were colored by the malice which makes the stories piquant reading for such a paper. Why does this man keep such "stuff locked up" in his s The fire is the only suitable place for it.

In an article in the International Quarterly, of which we gave an abstract recently Prof. N. S. SHALER of Harvard University presents a review of the supply and the probable exhaustion of the world's metals He says nothing that need alarm those of the present generation, and nothing that need cause us serious anxiety for our children or our grandchildren. But somewhere along the next hundred years or so he sees new conditions and possible trouble from high priced iron and copper and a dearth of gold, lead and tin.

Prof. SHALER sees England and Continental Europe already on the verge of an iron famine. He sees the exhaustion of the beds of Mesaba, Alabama and Tennes within a period measurable by decades When these and a few others like them are gone, the only recourse will be to smaller deposits, far more costly of operation, and to treatment of ores now regarded as worthless. Prices will advance and iron again become a precious metal. The outlook for copper is on a par with that for iron.

Apparently if posterity would live in skyscrapers instead of holes in the ground, and would travel by rail instead of afoot, it will be forced to the discovery of either cheap aluminum or the transmutation of elements. It seems a little hard on posterity, but we fancy they will get along as we did before we had telephones and auto-

Japan's shipbuilding yard at Nagasaki giving employment to 7,000 men, is by far the largest shipbuilding yard in the Far East. It was started in 1864 for ship repairing, and its dry dock was not built till 1871. Since then it has been, and still is, the nursery of the Japanese Navy. This is the description given by an enterprising Russian, M. KRAZHEFFSKI, who, over the signature of "Mr. Palmer," describes the yard in the Russkoye Slovo.

Since 1898 the yard has built eight steam ers, each of 5,000 tons or more. Out of the 7,000 workers only six are foreigners, but all the engineers and all the mechanics speak English, having received their technical training in England or the United States Now we train our own foremen on the spot at home," said the Japanese engineer in charge. In the yard is a museum con taining models of all the best ships in the world. England supplied the main equipment of the yard, but the electrical ap paratus in use was manufactured in the United States.

Two Surprising Revelations of Human Nature From Harper's Weekly.

What people will do to get their names in print is only loss surprising than what they will do to keep

their names out of print.

Fiction predominates in Scribner's Mag for August, eight short stories accompanying Mrs. Wharton's serial novel. Among these are a sea tale by Mr. James B. Connolly and one of rural Pennsylvania by Mr. Nelson Lloyd. Mr. Richard Harding Davis tells about San Juan Hill. An account of baghia, a sort of tag on horseback, as played in Turkestan, and a guess at Japan's demands are for the more serious minded. Mr. Eden Philipotts and others contribute verse, and a remarkable outburst of colored illustrations will be An Argument That the Katter's Pelley

Is Necessarily Peaceful. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Amid the many conjectures regarding the subjects discussed at the meeting between the Czar and the Kaiser, the fact that peace is supreme necessity for the success of the policy of Germany seems to be lost sight of. Whether that policy is the Kaiser's or his Government's matters very little; it is, at all events, one conceived in the interest of ported by them and the German press with

remarkable unanimity.

Plainly put, the whole situation centers round the fact that there is an economic war in progress between Great Britain and Germany, and that the victory for Germany depends on the preservation of peace the world over, for the immediate present and near future in any case. In this struggle, so far, Germany is winning, hence the bitterness of the British press and the acerbity in the general relations between the two countries and this is likely to increase, the efforts made by the British Government and M. Delcasse to isolate Germany having failed, as your Berlin correspondent points out in his des-patch in this morning's Sun.

What was more natural, therefore, than that the Kaiser should employ what influence and arguments he could to induce the Czar to meet the Japanese squarely in the peace negotiations, and to yield in internal affairs so much as may be necessary to restore order and maintain at the same time the authority of the Russian Crown and Govern-ment? Such advice would eminently adment? Such advice would eminently advance the policy of both Russia and Germany for the future. Intimate and friendly relations between them would render Germany entirely independent of all other countries for her supply of the two staple articles of grain and meat, and give Russia a much needed outlet for her production of them, in case of a war with France, such as seemed imminent at one moment, Germany's base of supplies would be beyond the enemy's reach; but that has been averted, and in all human probability there will never again be an armed conflict between the two countries, whatever may be the future of Alsace-Lorraine.

Whether the economic war between Great

Whether the economic war between Great Britain and Germany will lead eventually to a struggle in arms remains to be seen, but it also is improbable, for the reason that the former would almost certainly have to go into it alone.

It is true that the naval preponderance enjoyed by Great Britain might enable her to sweep the sea of German warships and capture Germany's colonies; but the German mercantile marine could pass temporarily under other flags, and German commerce go on uninterrupted through Danish, Dutch, Belgian, Italian or Austrian ports. And what would England gain in the end?

I venture to say her profit would be less than nothing. The disturbance at home would be so great that it might lead to a radical revision of the land laws that keep more than thirty millions of acres of the area of the United Kingdom out of full cultivation and are compelling its people to emigrate in search of a living; and the disorder in its finances brought about through the ill advised South African War would be so greatly aggravated that the prophecy of the old Boer President would come near accomplishment.

Great Britain, however, seems to be relying

Boer President would come near accomplishment.

Great Britain, however, seems to be reifing on one thing to enable her to maintain her present position in the world, that is a renewal of the Anglo-Japanese alliance. On this point let me quote a few words from a letter from a correspondent at Tokio, dated just three weeks ago. He says, speaking of Great Britain's position in Asia: "Hence the great anxiety to renew the alliance, of which there is very little on this side, for Japan has now no great fear of a Russian war of revenge, and England can do her no more good. Why then, they say, enter upon any obligations?

The failure then to isolate Germany, and the probable success of the peace negotiations, in bringing about which this country has played a happy part, will impose a new line of policy and conduct on the British Government at home and abroad, for the world is tired of war, with its senseless slaughter and waste, and will scrutinize very closely the motives of any Government that provokes a breach of the peace, whether it be the German or British.

New York, July 28.

Cramp and Drowning-A Personal Experience TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. Alexander Mellert writes to you, Monday, that there is no such thing as cramp as a cause of death to swin mers. Mr. Mellert has never learned the simple art of drowning in one lesson. To acquire it rapidly, as I did, he should follow my example and get a

I believed much as does Mr. Meffert till one day at Far Rockaway I went swimming in the inlet. Suddenly, as I was coming in from deep water, a something smote me in the stomach, tied my a fine assortment of agonies.

Did I turn on my back? Did I float? Did I keep perfectly cool and kick vigorously till the cramp

on bottom. On him I cast a look of wild appeal and remarked:
"Catch mel I ubble oogly blub—blub!" disap-A longlegged frie

pearing to discuss cramp problems with McGinty.

My friend happened to be prompt and scientific.

I still live. But I no longer believe that cramps do not interfere with the swimmer JOHN K. BRISTOL NEW YORK, July 25.

A Baseball Question. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: On Saturday last I witnessed the following play during a game

A runner on first base was taking a long lead toward second, and the pitcher, a left handed twirler, instead of delivering the ball to the plate. went through the usual motions of doing so, but just before reaching the point of delivery wheeled half about and, stepping out of the box with his right foot, drove the ball to first. The runner had

right foot, drove the ball to hiss. The runner had started to steal second, but finding himself caught between bases, was easily run down.

Was this move, as I have described it, in strict accordance with the rules of the game? And does the fact of the pitcher stepping out of the box, as he did, save him from a balk? In other words, if he had faced the batter as he did and then thrown the ball to first without stepping outside of the box, would not his play have been called a balk?

SOUTH PAW.

"South Paw's" eyes must have deceived him. If the play had been made as he de-scribes it, there is no umpire who would not have declared a balk. Evidently "South Paw" didn't see straight.

Refuse in the Boulevard.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Here are some of the things which you may find in the grass plots in the Boulevard, which formerly used to be so beautiful and well kept:

Fragments of iron castings, old brooms, whitewash buckets, broomsticks, pleces of iron wire, telephone wire, pasteboard boxes, tin cans, old rags, asphalt refuse, whisky flasks, milk bottles—all civings addenos of having lain there for months. giving evidence of having lain there for months. street are particularly bad.

in our big city government, costing nearly a hundred millions yearly, and with so many depart-ments covering almost all possible needs and uses. an's there some one who can and will remedy such NEW YORK, July 26.

Rum and Shipwrecks. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: An old ship saptain, whose many successful voyages had given him distinction in his calling, said to me long ago:

You can lay it down as an almost invariable rule that rum is the cause of a shipwreck."

Is it not possible that this old shipmaster suggested a potent cause of at least some of the many "accidents" in our navy?

MARINER. An Asiatic Combination Advised.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: A really clever man might now get up a great Asiatic combination. Japan should quietly make a generous peace. Rus-

sia will be a great Asiatic Power, and Turkey and Persia would gladly join the combination and escape the great Powers. S. E. NEW YORK, July 26. What Is a "Hairlegger"? To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In certain ections of Cape Cod the term "hairlegger" is one of reproach. A man who calls another man a "hairlegger" lays himself open to bodily injury. What is the derivation of the term, or why should

carry with it so much reproach? TARPAULIN COVE, July 25. In the Dark Ages.

William the Conqueror had just started the Domes-

day Book.

"And to think," he mosned, "I didn's charge them a cent to get in it."

THE EMPERORS CONFERENCE. BUILDING LOAN CONVENTION. EXCESSIVE PREIGHT CHARGES. Supt. Kilburn Urges the Delegates to Stick to Lecal Associations.

The annual convention of the United States Loague of Cooperative Savings and Building Loan Associations began yester-day in the Murray Hill Hotel. Corporation ration Counsel John J. Delany welcomed the dele-gates to this city on behalf of Mayor McClellan, and then A. L. Gutheil, president of the associations, made his annual address. He told of the growth of building and loan association, and continued:

"We still have robbers in the country, who are living off our good name and doing much harm. The moral is, stick to your home institutions and give a wide berth whatever their promises, to any concern from abroad, for, in nine cases out of ten, it is sure to prove a swindle. You may think that you are not getting enough interest on your investment in your home company as 'promised' you in the other, but you will win out more surely in the former."

H. F. Cellarius of Cincinnati, Ohio, sec-H. F. Cellarius of Cincinnati, Ohio, secretary of the league, then read his report. He said that the total assets of the local building associations in the United States are now \$600,342,568, which is a net increase for the year of \$20,786,474. The total membership is 1,631,046, a net increase of \$4,316.

Frederick D. Kilburn, State Superintendent of Banking, was invited to address the delegates, and he gave an informal talk. He said that building associations to be successful must confine themselves to local fields.

"I am happy to say," said Supts Kilburn,

to local fields.

"I am happy to say," said Supte Kilburn,
"that in my official capacity I have gained
the enmity of the so-called national banking associations." Mr. Kilburn's comments were received with hearty applause.
There was considered the conments were received with hearty application.

There was only one session of the convention yesterday, but there will be two today. The delegates went to Coney Island yesterday afternoon. To-day they will listen to committee reports and addresses by the delegates. At the afternoon session Addison B. Burk of Philadelphia will talk on "Fighting a Boss Ridden Legislature." After new officers are elected the convention will adjourn until next year.

NO RELIEF FOR KANE. Former Sewer Commissioner's Claim for

Defending Himself Bejected. Former Sewer Commissioner James Kane who is one of Senator McCarren's chief political lieutenants in Brooklyn, has been notified by the Board of Estimate of its refusal to reimburse him for the expenses he entailed in defending his official reputation

entailed in defending his official reputation in 1899, amounting to \$3,500. Comptroller Bird S. Coler held up the bills of the contractor who had been employed by Kane to clean the sewers in Brooklyn and had Kane indicted for malfeasance. Supreme Court Justice Jenks sustained the demurrer interposed by Kane, and the prosecution was dropped and the indictment quashed. Under a provision of the Charter, Kane applied to the Board of Estimate for a reimbursement of his expenses mate for a reimbursement of his expenses in defending himself, but that body, acting under the advice of Corporation Counsel Delany, decided against the payment of the claim. Mr. Kane may now sue for its recovery.

WELFARE WORKERS.

Civic Federation's Department Approve Sending Men to Panama.

welfare department of the National Civic Federation, which has its headquarters at 281 Fourth avenue, announced yesterday that plans for extending its yesterday that plans for extending its scope had been discussed at a conference of welfare managers representing large establishments in this and other cities. This department was formed in order to encourage the movement which has spread through the large cities to provide for pleasant and sanitary surroundings for the workers in stores and factories. The conference voted its approval of the sending through the welfare department of W. E. C. Nazro and Edward A. Moffett to Panama as welfare experts.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Why should the pushcart have a place in New York? Men vend everything from peanuts to men's garments from carts in crowded streets, and often in front of shops that sell the same articles. Their favorite stand is at a crossing where thousands pass every hour, and unless constantly watched by the police they will occupy enough of the space needed by pedestrians to compel passers by to crowd against the carts. If some thoughtiess one halts to buy, two fet more of the precious room is taken, and the thousands behind begin marking time.

Why should a part of the sidewalk in every busy atreet be given up to fruit stands, flower stands, lunch stands, &c.? In Park row there are many places where the sidewalk available for foot traffic is reduced to four or five feet.

There is hardly a sidewalk in the city where

traffic becomes congested during the busy hours that could not be bettered by the application of a little engineering sense. Why might not the sidewalk in Nassau street, from Spruce to Frankfort, and in Park row, from Frankfort to the Bridge, be widened five feet? And why not remove the lamp

Dosts at the corners?

Why not remove the curb from both sides of Nassau street from Spruce to Wall, extend the asphalt from house line to house line, depress the middle so as to carry off rain, and make the whole street a thoroughfare for pedestrians only during

certain hours?

There are dozens of places which are now the dread of those who must travel them during rush hours that could be greatly improved by engineers hours that could be greaty improved by engineers who would give the pedestrian a thought. Heretofore street science has been devoted to the betterment of roadways and to aiding vehicle traffic,
lan't it high time some serious thought was directed toward giving pedestrians a chance on the
sidewalks?

A SUFFERE. NEW YORK, July 24.

The Source of the Scandals.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. Jerom TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. Jerome has a fine chance to drag out the most interesting farican in the woodpile of the notorious society scandal paper, and incidentally make music rivaling that of the famous "Swinette" of Peoris, a musical instrument of great sweetness, strength and delicacy composed of nine octaves of porkers, each with his tall in a pinching apparatus operated by the keyboard.

by the keyboard.

The real nubble of value lies in the question.

Who are the contributors to that paper?

Rumor most credible has long had it that its proudest boast is that news of the smart setters must be true. because they write it themselves.

The proprietor, with a military thile, has also often sadly dropped the dismal news that altho orten sadly dropped the dismain news that although add contributors are all swellest of the swell, and real ladies, each expects pay for her work at 10 cents a line, and the more swellen the cointributor the more enthusiastic the expectation of a check—but that check must not and does not bear the

name of the paper.

Herein lies a clue for Mr. Jerome. Thousands and tens of thousands would like to know who supply grist for that scandal mill. The sacred list and check book are in existence. A duces tee m has virtues. NEW YORK, July 26.

Comfort for the Rejected. From an address by Mr. William Hughes, Insu

Actuary.

The old proverb which says that a creaking door hangs long on its hinges receives abundant illustra-tion in the numerous cases of confirmed invalids who live to old age, and the number of persons now living who have been rejected or heavily rated up many years ago by assurance companies may no doubt be reckoned by thousands.

Money in Snakes in Kentucky. From the Stanford Interior-Journal. Joe Upthegrove, owner of the big rattlesnake that attracted much attention last week, took it to the Choinnati Zoological Gardens and sold it to the management for 86. Mr. Upthegrove bought the snake from a man at Highland named Young for less than \$1. There's money in snakes.

An Expensive Vacation. "A week's vacation means a year added to your

"It will have to mean more than that, if I am to

A New Variety of Hog. Enicker—He who laughs last laughs best.

Booker—I know, but I always did hate the 22'

Interstate Commerce Commission Hears

1 3

Shippers' Complaints. KANSAS CITT, Mo., July 26.—The in-quiry to be conducted by the Interstate Commerce Commission in Kansas City was begun this morning in the Federal Court. Francis M. Cockrell, a member of the commission, former United States Senator from Missouri, was the only commissioner to arrive this morning. The commission has been conducting an in-

quiry in St. Louis. "The inquiry in Kansas City may last two days, said Commissioner Cockrell. We will first take up some cases which were already set for a hearing at this time They are complaints of shippers regarding alleged excessive charges in freight rates. The complaints of the Southwestern fruit dealers against the railroads will be heard

Only two cases were heard this morning. The first was a complaint made by J. W. Moran and J. H. Moran, grain dealers at Lamar, Mo., against the Missouri Pacific Railway on an alleged excessive charge in flour rates from Lamar to Hope, Ark. The second case called this morning was based on a complaint made by W. H. Grace and W. B. Stator, produce and coal dealers at Albany, Mo., against the Eurlington Railroad on account of alleged greater charge for a short haul of coal in carload lots than the charge for a long haul.

"We will take up the first case, in which a shipper complains against the Missouri Pacific, said Commissioner Cockrell. Then there followed some preliminary discussion between Mr. Robinson, appearing for the between Mr. Robinson, appearing for the Missouri Pacific, and J. B. McGilvray, ap-pearing for the complaining shippers. Mr. pearing for the complaining shippers. Mr. Robinson did not want to proceed with the hearing unless Mr. McGilvray would confine his examination entirely within the com-

CHARLES S. BURR DEAD.

Merchant Succumbs to Apoplexy Induced. It Is Supposed, by Ptomaine Poison.

Charles S. Burr, who, with his brother, Walter C. Burr, had been in control of the straw goods importing house of J. S. Plummer & Co. of 159 Mercer street for several years, died on Tuesday night of apoplexy, resulting, it is said, from ptomaine poison-

On the departure of his wife, three daughters and two sons for their country home at Range Lake, Me., early in the summer, Mr. Burr closed up his house at 190 New York avenue, Brook yn, and went to live at the Union League Club. He had long been under medical treatment for liver and heart trouble, as well as rheumatism, but during the summer his health had improved and he had made arrangements to start to Europe on a business trip next week.

On July 19 he accompanied a few fellow members of the club in an automobile to College Point on a clambake excursion. He partook heartily of the clams and fish, and seemed to have greatly enjoyed the trip. The following day, however, he became so ill that he called on Dr. Nathan A. Beers, Jr., of 1265 Bedford avenue. He improved under the medicines prescribed,

improved under the medicines prescribed, but he had a relapse on Sunday and paid a second visit to Dr. Beers.

He collapsed in the doctor's office and was assisted back to the clubhouse. He grew steadily worse and died in an apopletic fit about midnight on Tuesday. His brother and sister-in-law were with him at the time of his death, and the bod/was removed to his brother's house at 1314 Albemarle road, Flatbush.

Mr. Burr was born in Homer, N. Y., 48 years ago. He and his brother each married a daughter of J. S. Plummer and they inherited the business from their father-inlaw. He was a member of the Union League Club and the Crescent Athletic Club.

AN ANTI-STRIKE UNION.

Electrical Mechanics' Association Trying for Becognition. The Electrical Mechanics' Association has sent circular letters to the members of the Electrical Contractors' Association, asking them to employ its members. The association says it simply wants the same opportunities as other unions, without discrimination. The by-laws of the Elegtrical Mechanics' Association announce that one of its objects is to discourage any attempt to "dictate, interfere or coerce." either on the part of the employer or em-

Twenty-eight Years on the Water Wagon. FORT WAYNE, Ind., July 26.-Thomas Mills died to-day. He was a unique character, who, after spending \$6,000 for drink, signed a pledge here on July 5, 1877, and remained a total abstainer for the remainder of his life. He celebrated the event annually, and every Sunday that he was able he attended religious services at the jail, of which he had been an inmate on account of his drinking, and talked to the prisoners, admonishing them to refrain from drink. In 1902 Henry C. Paul, president of one of the banks and prominent in financial circles, presented a handsome gold medal to Mills to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of his signing the pledge.

Navy Department Closed Against Collectors.

WASHINGTON, July 26.- An order was issued to-day by Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte shutting the doors of the Navy Department against collectors who seek to present bills to employees. While the Department will take no cognizance, according to the order, of complaints against employees, it will consider an employee who falls, without justification, to pay his debts as unfit for the public service. The order pertains only to civilian employees, the navy regulations still government.

New Haven Read Official Pensioned. NEW HAVEN, Conn., July 26. - The New Haven road officials gave it out to-night that James H. States, general ticket agent of the company, will be retired on a pension on Aug. 1, after forty-three years service. The position will be consolidated with that of general passenger agent and will be under the supervision of F. C. Coley, assistant general passenger agent of the road.

Will Climb Colima.

From the Mexican Herald.

In order to investigate thoroughly the activities of Colima and to prepare a series of lectures for the students of Harvard University on North America's only active volcano, the Rev. Peter H. Goldsmith, a minister of Salem, Mass., is now engaged in an attack of the Colima of Colima. He means tempt to climb to the crater of Colima. He means to collect an array of data and information which has not been secured heretofore, and this he will present to the students of Harvari as reliable mate-rial concerning the fire mountain.

rial concerning the fire mountain.

The volcano has been comparatively quiet for some time, and Dr. Goldsmith hopes to be able to ascend to the crater and to look inside it. Even when eruptions are not in progress the ascent of Colima is exceedingly dangerous, as the barrancas along the sides of the mountain are full of ashes. In crossing these harrancas a man is in danger of simpling into these barrancas a man is in danger of sinking into

From the Japan Weekly Mas.

About fifty-three hundred officers and men who

have been killed since the battle of Llaoyang up to the battle of Mukden will receive the Golden Kite. This posthumous honor is already sanctioned by the Emperor and will shortly be pub-

Howell—Here's just what you want in the way of a vacation place; the advertisement says; "All the comforts of home."

Powell-Those are just what I'm trying to get